

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

The claims have been amended as supported by the claims as originally filed.

New Claims 6-19 have been added as supported by the specification as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1-19 will now be active in this application. Claims 4 and 5 are withdrawn from consideration.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Lightfoot for the helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representative on June 12, 2009. During this discussion it was noted that Claim 1 may be amended by including a depth of fixing the microparticles to a surface either before or after hydrophobizing.

In addition, it was discussed to delete fluoroalkylalkoxysilanes from the last line of Claim 1 and replace the term with fluorosilanes or fluorosiloxanes.

Moreover, in order to overcome the rejection over Nun et al., it was discussed to amend the claims so that the microparticles are hydrophobized with oligomers of the respective of fluoro compounds. This does not exclude mixtures of the monomeric compounds with the oligomeric compounds.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, is obviated by the amendment of the claims.

The present invention as set forth in amended Claim 1 relates to a method for producing a surface,

the method comprising:

fixing microparticles to a carrier layer or a substrate either before or after hydrophobizing of said microparticles;

hydrophobizing said microparticles with components i) or ii):

i) an oligomer of a fluorosilane or a fluorosiloxane, or

ii) a mixture of

a) an oligomer of a fluorosilane or a fluorosiloxane, and

b) a fluorosilane or a fluorosiloxane,

to form a resulting surface having a surface structure,

the surface structure having elevations which are formed by said microparticles,

said elevations having a mean height of from 20 nm to 25 μm and a mean separation of from 20 nm to 25 μm ,

the microparticles having a particle diameter of from 0.02 to 100 μm and having been hydrophobized with components i) or ii);

the resulting surface having self-cleaning, oleophobic, lipophobic and lactophobic properties.

Nun et al fail to disclose or suggest hydrophobizing said microparticles with components i) or ii):

- i) an oligomer of a fluorosilane or a fluorosiloxane, or
- ii) a mixture of
 - a) an oligomer of a fluorosilane or a fluorosiloxane, and
 - b) a fluorosilane or a fluorosiloxane.

Further, **new Claims 6-19** have been added and their limitations are not disclosed or suggested by Nun et al.


Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Nun et al is believed to be unsustainable as the present invention is neither anticipated nor obvious and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 5 depend directly or indirectly on Claim 1 and should be rejoined once Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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